

CLAIMS

1. A DNA construct that comprises the sequence lying
between the nucleotide (-) 1796 and the nucleotide (+)104
5 of the promoter of human cyclooxygenase 2 (cox-2) gene
and a reporter gene, operatively joined to each other,
such that said promoter sequence of the cox-2 gene
controls the expression of said reporter gene in response
to a suitable stimulus.

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2. A construct according to claim 1, in which said
reporter gene is selected from the luciferase gene, the
chloramphenicol acetyltransferase gene and the gene of
beta galactosidase.

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3. A vector that comprises a DNA construct according
to any of claims 1 to 2.

4. A cell line that comprises a construct according
20 to any of claims 1 to 2 or transformed with a vector
according to claim 3.

5. A cell line according to claim 4, in which said
cell line is derived from a cell line of human origin.

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6. A cell line according to claim 5, in which said
cell line of human origin is a line of Jurkat cells.

7. A cell line according to claims 4 to 6 which
30 expresses in stable fashion the DNA construct of claims
1 to 2.

8. An assay method for the search for compounds that selectively inhibit the induction at a transcriptional level of cyclooxygenase-2 by a suitable stimulus, that
5 comprises bringing a cell line according to any of claims 5 to 7, into contact with a compound whose potential selective inhibitory activity of induction at a transcriptional level of cox-2 it is wanted to assay, in conditions that allow the transcription of cox-2, and
10 detecting, and/or measuring, the signal indicative of the expression of activity due to the reporter gene.